



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1344.8.55.002 - ABSTRACT, Statistics News, Australian Capital Territory, Nov 2002

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 30/11/2002

## Summary

### Main Feature

#### CONTENTS

A Message From The Regional Director

ACT In Focus Out Now

ACT Statistical Indicators Now Available

Year Book Australia 2003 With A Strong Environment Theme To Be Launched In January 2003

Canberra... A Social Atlas

Statistical Developments

Census Update

Expected Major Irregular & Annual Releases

Entry Points To The ABS ACT Office

### A MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Since the last issue there have been several significant releases of information and a number of other statistical developments by the ABS.

In relation to the ACT the most important is the release of our flagship publication **ACT in Focus** (cat. no. 1307.8). This publication has a range of topical and relevant facts about the ACT and its surrounding areas. It compliments the quarterly **ACT Statistical Indicators** (cat. no. 1367.8) publication, the second issue of which will be available later this month.

Finally, **Regional Statistics ACT** (cat. no. 1362.8) will be released early next year. This publication has a wide range of ABS data (including census data) and non-ABS data presented by Statistical Local Area (SLA), again covering the ACT and the surrounding region.

If you would like to learn more about the products & services available from the ABS, get a copy of 'Discover the ABS'. This free booklet shows that the ABS is more than just numbers. It describes how we can tailor innovative solutions to meet your specific needs. It contains a description of the range of products and services available. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you think we can help.

Tracy Stewart  
Regional Director,  
ACT Office, Australian Bureau of Statistics.

## **ACT IN FOCUS OUT NOW**

Canberrans recycled 354,779 tonnes of waste products during 2000-01, according to figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). This was an increase of nearly 4% on 1999-2000 and an increase of 92% on the 1995-96 figure.

The latest edition of ACT in Focus 2002 provides a detailed statistical review of important and interesting aspects of life in the ACT. It includes information on the environment, government, economy, people, education, labour market, business, housing, tourism, the Australian Capital Region and more.

Highlights from ACT in Focus 2002 include:

- Canberra enjoyed an average of 7.8 hrs of sunshine per day in 2001. The long-term average was 7.5 hrs. The month of May 2001 recorded an average of 7.3 hours of sunshine per day, compared with the average of 5.6 hours.
- The ACT had the second youngest population in Australia during 2001, with a median age of 33.3 years. The population of the Northern Territory was the youngest with a median age of 29.6 years.
- Canberrans led Australia in the use of the Internet, with 51% using the Internet in the weeks just prior to the 2001 Census, compared with 29% for Australia.
- There were over 10,000 employing businesses located in the ACT at June 2001, with 88% using computers. Of these, 73% had Internet access and 26% had a Web presence.
- The ACT had the second highest rate of volunteers for all states and territories in 2001, with 36% of the population aged 18 years and over actively volunteering.
- The trend annual average unemployment rate in the ACT has fallen since 1996-97 (7.5%) to an average of 4.9% in 2000-01.
- The largest businesses in the ACT (turnover above \$1m) were in the Retail, Construction and the Accommodation, Cafe and Restaurant industries.
  - Total value of construction in the ACT fell by 33% to \$629.9m in 2000-01. Non-residential construction fell 43% while residential construction and engineering construction both fell 30%.

ACT in Focus is a must for those who want topical and relevant facts about the ACT and surrounding area at their fingertips. The 2002 edition also provides a fascinating account of the history of Canberra from early Aboriginal settlement to current events.

**For further information regarding ACT in Focus, please contact Alan Masters on 02 62070286 or [alan.masters@abs.gov.au](mailto:alan.masters@abs.gov.au)**

## **ACT STATISTICAL INDICATORS NOW AVAILABLE**

The new quarterly ACT Statistical Indicators was released on 31st July. This publication provides a broad range of data with detailed analysis of recent trends and movements in key demographic, economic and labour market statistics. The second issue is due for release on 30th October.

Some highlights from the first issue include:

- Tourism in the ACT continued to grow from the previous quarter. Room occupancy rates were up 5%, with the national rate up 1%. Guest arrivals in the ACT also continued strongly up 7% on the previous quarter while the national guest arrival rate fell by 2%.
- Total average weekly earnings in the ACT was \$838 for males and \$627 for females in February 2002. By comparison, the Australian average weekly earnings for males was \$822 per week and \$514 per week for females.
- There was a higher proportion of public sector employees, 44% of all wage earners in the ACT compared with 20% nationally. The Commonwealth government, employs 33% of all wage earners in the ACT and 4% nationally.
- Original personal finance commitments in the ACT rose by 7% to \$73 million in April 2002. Nationally original total finance commitments fell by 2%.
- The value of buildings commenced in the ACT was up 35% on the previous quarter, well above the national figure of 3%. The value of buildings completed was also above the national average, up 18% in the ACT compared to 7% nationally.
- The number of Indigenous people increased by 23% in the 2001 Census compared with the previous 1996 Census, and by 125% since 1991. National increases of 16% and 55% were recorded for Indigenous people over these periods.
- The 2001 Census found the ACT was the second youngest state after the Northern Territory (30 years), while South Australia recorded the highest median age (37 years). However the ACT's population continued to age, with the median age rising to 32 years from 1996 (30 years).

ACT Statistical Indicators provides more relevant information for a wider range of people who need to make decisions on the future of the ACT. ACT businesses, industry groups, health organisations, schools, tourism bodies and the ACT Government will all benefit from this publication.

**For further information on ACT Statistical Indicators, please contact Rod Campbell on 02 6207 0446 or [rod.campbell@abs.gov.au](mailto:rod.campbell@abs.gov.au)**

[Back to top](#)

## **YEAR BOOK AUSTRALIA 2003 WITH A STRONG ENVIRONMENT THEME TO BE LAUNCHED IN JANUARY 2003**

The 2003 issue of Year Book Australia is to be launched by Ian Kiernan of Clean Up Australia on Friday 24 January 2003. The launch is planned to be held in Melbourne.

This issue of the Year Book will have a strong environmental theme to reflect 2003 as International Year of Freshwater. Several chapters will contain articles of varying length reflecting this environmental theme, covering issues such as:

- climate change
- ecological health of Australia's rivers
- environmental impacts from the mining industry
- builder's attitudes to energy issues and usage

- tourism and the environment

As usual, there will be other articles scattered throughout the Year Book covering issues of current topical interest to the reader.

The 2003 issue of the Year Book will contain two new features:

1. The list of special articles contained in previous issues will be expanded to include all the smaller articles contained in the body of the chapters since the inception of this concept in the 1995 issue of the Year book.
2. A second list of articles will be provided which will present all the articles contained in the 2003 issue along with their page numbers. The aim of this list is to help the reader to quickly locate these articles.

As always the Year Book is jammed pack with up-to-date statistics about Australia and Australians. At a price of only \$86, it is like having an encyclopaedia in one compact product.

A CD-ROM version will also be available for those readers who prefer to use this reference in electronic format. For those readers who prefer surfing the net, the Year Book is accessible through the ABS web site at <https://www.abs.gov.au> and clicking on Australia Now.

**If you would like to pre-order a copy of the YEAR BOOK AUSTRALIA 2003, or would like further information, please contact Alan Masters on 02 6207 0286 or email: [alan.masters@abs.gov.au](mailto:alan.masters@abs.gov.au)**

[Back to top](#)

## **CANBERRA... A SOCIAL ATLAS**

### **TO BE RELEASED IN EARLY 2003**

Canberra... A Social Atlas (cat. no. 2030.8) will present colour maps of the key social, demographic and economic characteristics of Canberra, at the time of the 2001 Census. The maps are easy to interpret as the distribution of the data are represented by different colours or shadings. A brief commentary explaining the main features and characteristics also accompanies each map.

The Canberra Social Atlas series has a common core set of maps including population, ethnicity, education, families, income, labour force and dwellings. Each Social Atlas also includes maps that highlight any unique attributes pertaining to that particular capital city.

**If you would like to pre-order a copy of the upcoming Canberra Social Atlas, or would like further information, please contact Gordon Knox on 02 6207 0484 or email: [gordon.knox@abs.gov.au](mailto:gordon.knox@abs.gov.au)**

[Back to top](#)

## **STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENTS**

### **DIRECTORY OF CULTURE AND LEISURE STATISTICS**

The Directory of Culture and Leisure Statistics was released on the ABS Web site on 13th August 2002. The key aims of the directory are to provide a quick and easy reference to

ABS sources of culture and leisure data, and provide information about the extent of data available from each data collection. The details provided about each collection's data items will assist users of culture and leisure data to determine whether a collection might meet their needs, and to prepare possible cross-tabulation specifications ready for discussion with ABS information consultants. Contact details are provided for each collection. Entries also provide information on the scope, frequency and history of a collection and the major publications that present data from the collection. The ABS developed this directory with financial assistance from the Cultural Ministers Council Statistics Working Group (CMC SWG) and the Recreation and Sport Industry Statistics Group (RSISG) of the Sport and Recreation Ministers' Council.

The **Directory of Culture and Leisure Statistics** (cat. no. 1143.0.55.001) is a web-based product which is freely available and can be viewed by clicking on a link in the Culture and Recreation Theme Page (described above) on the ABS web site <https://www.abs.gov.au>; or to find the directory from the home page of the ABS web site, without going through the Culture and Recreation Theme Page, click on About Statistics, then Directory of Statistical Sources, open the twistie next to About the Directory of Statistical Sources, and click on Other ABS Directories.

**For further information contact Heather Latz on 08 8237 7484 or [nccrs@abs.gov.au](mailto:nccrs@abs.gov.au).**

## **RELEASE ON VOLUNTARY WORK 2000 CONFIDENTIALISED UNIT RECORD FILE (CURF)**

Voluntary work plays a very important role in meeting needs within the community and helping to develop and reinforce social networks and cohesion. In the Survey of Voluntary Work conducted throughout Australia in 2000, the ABS collected data on what kinds of people volunteer and the varied activities they undertake, among other things. Interesting information from the survey includes the differences in the kinds of organisations men and women volunteer for and the different levels of volunteering across the States and Territories and between the big cities and regional Australia.

The Voluntary Work 2000 CURF, released on the 26 June 2002, allows detailed examination of voluntary work within Australia.

**For further information contact Javad Seyedi on 02 6252 6063 or [javad.seyedi@abs.gov.au](mailto:javad.seyedi@abs.gov.au)**

## **CULTURE AND RECREATION STATISTICS ON THE WEB**

The ABS National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics (NCCRS) has launched a Theme Page on the ABS web site. The Theme Page is a valuable resource, providing information on culture and recreation statistical resources and contacts. Readers can select a topic of interest - such as music and the performing arts, or sport and leisure industries - and view details of ABS and some non-ABS articles and publications which contain statistics about that topic. The Theme Page also provides links to the Australian Culture and Leisure Classifications, the Directory of Culture and Leisure Statistics, the NCCRS newsletters and other web sites related to culture and recreation.

The Theme Page can be viewed by opening the ABS web site at <https://www.abs.gov.au>,

clicking on Themes, then clicking on Culture and Recreation.

**For further information contact Heather Latz on 08 8237 7484 or [nccrs@abs.gov.au](mailto:nccrs@abs.gov.au).**

## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING INDICATORS, AUSTRALIA**

Education and Training Indicators, Australia (cat. no. 4230.0) is a new biennial publication produced by the National Centre for Education and Training Statistics, and is due for release towards the end of November 2002. The publication includes information about 38 topics, using both ABS and non-ABS sources, covering the spectrum of education and training activities in Australia. The topics are grouped in line with the recently developed framework for education and training statistics Measuring Learning in Australia: A Framework for Education and Training Statistics. Education and Training Indicators, Australia is an easy to understand reference for anyone interested in education and training in Australia.

**For more information about the work of the National Centre for Education and Training Statistics, visit our theme page on the ABS web site at <https://www.abs.gov.au/ncets>.**

[Back to top](#)

## **CENSUS UPDATE**

### **SELECTED SOCIAL & HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS AVAILABLE NOW**

The first release 2001 Census data was launched with the release of the National publication Selected Social and Housing Characteristics, Australia, 2001 (cat. no. 2015.0).

On 12 September this year, the State and Territory versions Selected Social and Housing Characteristics for SLAs (cat. no. 2015.1-8) were released providing selected person and dwelling characteristics for Statistical Local Areas (SLAs), SDs and SSDs and 1996 Census data at SD and SSD levels are also included for comparison.

This publication series covers a range of social and housing statistics produced from the 2001 Census. Primarily consisting of tables, the publications contain census population counts and selected census data describing the characteristics of people living in each area and their housing arrangements.

Get in quick, buy the 2001 ACT edition (2015.8) and 1996 ACT edition for one low price of \$34.00. Offers closes 31 December 2002 or when stocks run out.

**For further information on the Selected Housing and Social Characteristics series, please contact Alan Masters on 02 6207 0286 or [alan.masters@abs.gov.au](mailto:alan.masters@abs.gov.au).**

### **CDATA 2001 - OUT NOW!**

Developed jointly by the ABS and MapInfo Australia, CDATA 2001 gives you access to a wide range of census data including age, income, education, transport, housing, computer usage, religion and more.

Detailed analysis of the population is integral to effective planning. It is vital for new businesses or those looking to expand or diversify and for government agencies in

establishing community services.

CDATA 2001 is accompanied by extensive free product support to clients through the ABS' Census Technical Helpline, and guarantees access to expert personnel to discuss all aspects of the package from data to software.

CDATA 2001 includes Basic Base Map Data which shows details such as major roads and rivers, railway lines and town centres. The Base Map Data is a useful tool for any organisation's sales force. Detailed Base Map, a companion product to CDATA 2001, is also now available. Detailed Base Map information makes identification of relevant features faster and more accurate.

**For further information on CDATA please contact Gordon Knox on 6207 0484 or [gordon.knox@abs.gov.au](mailto:gordon.knox@abs.gov.au)**

[Back to top](#)

## **EXPECTED MAJOR IRREGULAR & ANNUAL RELEASES**

This listing shows those ABS publications expected to be released over the coming quarter. The expected month of release is shown in brackets. Release dates may vary from those shown. Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications and Products (cat. no. 1101.0). The catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <https://www.abs.gov.au>. The web site also provides daily release information for the week ahead.

### **General**

1301.0 Year Book Australia 2003 (Jan 2003).

1309.0 Australia at a Glance 2003 (Jan 2003)

1329.0 Australian Wine and Grape Industry  
2002 (Jan 2003).

1351.0 Working Papers in Econometrics and  
Applied Statistics: No 2002/1 A  
Methodology to Construct an  
Experimental Index of Indigenous  
Socioeconomic Disadvantage 1996 (Nov.).

1367.8 Australian Capital Territory Statistical  
Indicators Dec 2002 (Jan 2003).

### **Census of Population and Housing**

2017.8 Census of Population and Housing:  
Selected Education and Labour Force  
Characteristics for Statistical Local  
Areas, Australian Capital Territory  
2001 (Feb 2003).

2030.8 Canberra... A Social Atlas 2001 (Feb 2003).  
Demography and Social Statistics

3318.0 Mortality Atlas, Australia, 1997-2000 (Dec).

3311.8 Demography, Australian Capital Territory  
2001 (Dec).

4130.0 Housing Occupancy and Costs, Australia  
2000-01(Dec).

4147.0 Sport and recreation Funding by  
Government, Australia 2000-01 (Nov).

4213.0 Occasional Paper: Measuring Learning  
in Australia - A Framework for  
Education and Training Statistics 2002  
(Nov).

4230.0 Education and Training Indicators,  
Australia 2002 (Nov.).

4518.0 Information Paper: Sexual Assault  
Information Development Plan 2002  
(Dec).

4711.0 Occasional Paper: Hospital Statistics,  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Australians 1999-2000 (Nov).

4715.0 National Health Survey: Aboriginal  
and Torres Strait Islander Results,  
Australia (Nov).

## **Environment**

4602.0 Environmental Issues: People's Views  
and Practices Mar 2002 (Nov).

4715.0 Salinity on Australian Farms,  
June 2002 (Dec).

## **Labour Statistics**

6297.0 Information Paper: Changers to  
Labour Force Statistics Products 2002  
(Nov).

6523.0 Income Distribution, Australia, 2000-01  
(Dec).

## **Business and Industry**

8155.0 Australian Industry, 2000-01 (Dec).

[Back to top](#)

**ENTRY POINTS TO THE ABS ACT OFFICE**

**BOOKSHOP**



Office Hours: 9am to 4.30pm Mon to Fri

Level 5  
QBE Insurance Building  
33 Ainslie Avenue  
Canberra City  
Ph: (02) 6207 0326  
Fax: (02) 6207 0282  
ACT ABS Office  
Locked bag 10  
BELCONNEN ACT 2616  
1900 986 400  
(75c per minute)  
1902 981 074  
(75c per minute)  
<https://www.abs.gov.au>

POSTAL ADDRESS:

NATIONAL DIAL A STATISTIC LINE  
(for main economic indicators other than CPI) (75c per minute)  
CPI INFORMATION LINE  
1902 981 074  
(75c per minute)

WEB SITE:

NATIONAL INFORMATION AND REFERRAL  
SERVICE

Telephone

1300 135 070

Fax

1300 135 211

Email

[client.services@abs.gov.au](mailto:client.services@abs.gov.au)

ABS ACT REGIONAL CONTACTS:

Regional Director: Tracy Stewart

02 6207 0283

Assistant Regional Director: James Holt

02 6204 0244

Project and Information Manager: Alan

02 6207 0286

Masters

02 6207 0484

Project and Information Manager: Gordon

02 6207 0315

Knox

Project and Information Manager: Antony

Perera

[Back to top](#)

## About this release

ABSTRACT - Statistical News: Australian Capital Territory provides new and relevant information about survey developments, information and training sessions, user consultations, major changes to the statistical program, state/territory data releases and significant ABS data releases.

---

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website - except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark - is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence